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French from the beginning have instructed them in the arts of military and administrative organization, sanitation, commerce and industry. A chapter on railroads gives much information concerning the various lines, constructed and proposed. The author reverses the general saying that colonies are made for commerce and expounds the commercial and industrial development of the French possessions from the standpoint of commerce as a necessity for the colonies. Agriculture, grazing, hunting and fishing as occupations in this land are considered in detail. The book ends with a description of the native population, principally to make clear the general characteristics of the indigenous society in their bearings on the French colonial policy.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

**L'Afrique équatoriale française.** Par Maurice Rondet-Saint. iv and 312 pp.

Map. Plon-Nourrit et Cie., Paris, 1911. Frs. 3.50.  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ .

After the renown, which the author acquired through two preceding works, of which one was crowned by the Academy, this sketchy disposition of the future of the African colonies of France is disappointing. He has made all too scant use of his studies in Gaboon itself. His recommendations seem trivial when measured by the pressing need of the metropolis to develop colonies and equally when measured by the tragedy which now saddens French colonial life. Is Gaboon to be a great and a productive empire, or is it going to drain France of its resources and destroy the African peoples whom the French have undertaken to civilize? With that question coming foremost it is irksome to find that any man who has visited that coast and its rearward territories stops at the threshold to debate the preferability of shipping non-commissioned officers steerage or second class. Not many Frenchmen go to the Congo, few indeed outside the army of functionaries of the government and clerks of trading companies. Surely the stay-at-home Frenchman is entitled to hear a voice speaking with true information about this land, which may be an empire or may be a cemetery, he knows not as yet which. Instead of grave consideration of the burden which France has assumed, he finds here the recommendation that Africa will not really pay until Thomas Cook has exploited it for the tourist trade, until the motor clubs have established petrol stations along the Congo from Banana to Equatorville, until the Société Cynégétique has attracted the big game hunters away from British and German East Africa, until French yachtsmen forsake Cowes and Kiel for the long cruise to Dakar. It is surprising that any observer could have traversed this territory with so scant regard of the great drama which is there and now in action.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

**A Colony in the Making; or, Sport and Profit in British East Africa.** By Lord Cranworth. xiv and 359 pp. Map, ills., index. Macmillan

Co., New York, 1912. \$4. 9 x 6.

A critical survey of British East Africa as to its economic prospects, conditions favorable to development and drawbacks, such as distance from Europe and the nearly complete absence of minerals. Facts relating to these topics fill two-thirds of the book; the balance is devoted to game, with emphasis on the nature and habits of the animals. The chief economic assets are found in the wide-spread highlands covering large areas from 4,000 to 8,500 feet above the sea. The climate of the highlands is unsurpassed. The soil is rich, abundant and waiting only to be tilled. No better grazing can be found. The rivers are abundant and many of them clear and beautiful. The forests are almost unsurpassed in Africa. Labor in the Protectorate is plentiful and intelligent.

The only important mineral resource is the crystalline soda in Lake Magadi, sixty miles southwest of Nairobi, the finest known soda lake in the world. A branch railroad is being constructed to it, and a large company has been organized to work the field. The lake contains over 200 million tons of soda of extraordinary purity.

The Uganda Railroad has exceeded the most sanguine expectations. The balance sheet for 1903-04 showed a deficit of over \$300,000; the deficit was decreased in the following year to \$15,000. In the succeeding year the receipts exceeded expenditures by \$200,000, and in the year 1910-11 by \$369,000.

Capital is flowing in and exports are flowing out. The most important and proved lines of farm products are: permanent crops—timber, sisal hemp, coffee, wattle (for tannin extract), fruit; seasonal crops—wheat, beans, maize, barley, oats, linseed, potatoes, tobacco, ground-nuts (pea-nuts), chillies; live stock—horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, ostriches. The book is by a man of long and unsurpassed opportunities for observation, who tries to give nothing but the facts and a helpful discussion of them. No better book has yet been written on this remarkable part of Africa. A chapter "Hints for Woman in British East Africa," by Lady Cranworth, is included.

**Aux Sources du Nil par le Chemin de Fer de l'Ouganda.** Par Jules Leclercq. v and 295 pp. Map, ills. Plon-Nourrit et Cie., Paris, 1913.  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$ .

The author has revealed his descriptive talent once again in this narrative of his trip over the Uganda R. R., and beyond into Uganda territory. Along with descriptions such as how the locomotive's whistle is often sounded to frighten rhinoceroses off the track, he conveys information of a geographical character. From Mombasa through Nairobi and the Rift to the shores of Lake Victoria the reader is led through a country which, before the time of Joseph Thomson (1882-1883), was one of the blackest patches on the Dark Continent. A splendid impression of British colonial efficiency dawns on the mind as scenes witnessed on British governed territory are evoked by the writer's facile pen. Much of the book's interest lies in the descriptions of negro customs and traits.

LEON DOMINIAN.

**The Ancient Egyptians and Their Influence upon the Civilization of Europe.** By G. Elliot Smith. xvi and 188 pp. Maps, index. Harper & Brothers, New York, 1911.  $7 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ .

A mere primer in general appearance this small volume sheds a very bright light upon one of the great obscurities which have darkened the life of early man in Europe. Dr. Smith starts with a brilliant review of the recent discoveries of the man of Predynastic Egypt, whom through a remarkable chance it has been possible to study in actual flesh even to so minute a detail as the last meal which each had taken millenniums ago. He sets them forth as the discoverers of copper. From the valley of the Nile he sends them along the African shore of the Mediterranean with ferries to Malta, to Pantellaria, to Sicily and to Spain, introducing the megalithic culture which has left such abundant remains along the littoral of Europe between Gibraltar and Scandinavia. In the other direction he points out that in Syria the ancient Egyptians introduced their gift of metal to the Armenoid races which thus were able to sweep westward north of the Mediterranean introducing the so-called Aryan culture of the bronze age upon the earlier neolithic inhabitants. These two theories may not meet with immediate acceptance. They may in time be wholly supplanted by others dealing with the same material; but they certainly for the present clear up many of the obscurities which have long hung over the field upon which they are particularly directed. Apart from this enticing region of polemics the volume is filled with much fresh information upon the Proto-Egyptians which will be found most agreeable reading.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

**The Oxyrhynchus Papyri.** Part 9. Edited, with translations and notes, by Arthur S. Hunt. x and 304 pp. Ills., index. Egypt Exploration Fund, London, 1912.  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 8$ .

This is the ninth volume of these treasures of a dust heap, a volume of particular importance since it contains new fragments of Sophocles and of the